

Remarks

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 11-13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22-23 and 26-31 were pending and rejected. Claims 1, 7, 13, 18 and 26-29 are amended and Claims 30 and 31 are cancelled. New Claims 32 and 33 are added. Support for the amendments can be found in the Specification at least in paragraphs [0042] and [0047] and FIGS. 3, 4 and 5. No new matter has been added. Thus, after entry of this amendment, Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 11-13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22-23, 26-29 and 32-33 are currently pending. Reconsideration is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 is amended to remove “wherein the at least one intermediate portion consists primarily of the first insulation layer.”

As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 15, 18, 20 and 26-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kim et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,859,254), herein referred to as “Kim ‘254.”

Of the above-referenced claims, Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18 are independent. Accordingly, once allowability of these claims is established, all claims depending therefrom are likewise allowable.

Claims 1 and 7, as amended, each recite in part “the first insulation layer having a first portion overlapped with the display region and a second portion overlapped with the sealine region and separated from the first portion by an opening window extending in a longitudinal direction of the sealine region” (emphasis added). Claim 13, as amended, recites in part “removing a portion of the first insulation layer to form an opening window in the sealine region so that the first insulation layer has a first portion overlapped with the display region and a second portion overlapped with the sealine region and separated from the first portion, the opening window extending through the first insulation layer to the second insulation layer and extending in a longitudinal direction of the sealine region” (emphasis added). Claim 18, as amended, recites in part “wherein the opening window extends through the first insulation layer to the second insulation layer and extends in a longitudinal direction of the sealine region” (emphasis added).

In contrast, Kim ‘254 discloses, with respect to FIG. 1 (copied below) “the sealing region 7 includes liquid crystal injection opening 20 for injecting liquid crystal material between the lower substrate 3 and the lower substrate 5 after they are attached” (Kim ‘254, col. 1, lines 51-54).

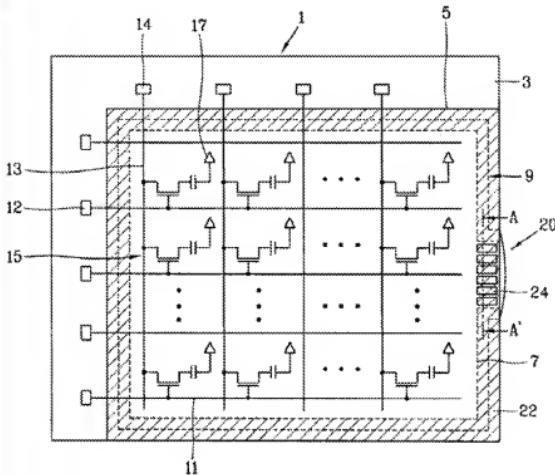


FIG. 1 of Kim '254

FIG. 1, as well as FIGS. 3A and 3B, which are taken along I-I' of FIG. 1 (Kim '254, col. 2, line 49), illustrate that the "openings 62" of Kim (Kim '254, col. 2, line 56) do not extend "in a longitudinal direction of the sealine region" as recited in Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18. Thus, Kim '254 does not disclose an "opening window" that extends "in a longitudinal direction of the sealine region" as recited in Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18.

For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit independent Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18, and all claims depending therefrom are patentable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 6 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim '254 in view of Kim et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0036815), herein referred to as "Kim '815."

Claims 5, 11, 17 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim '254 in view of Seo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,822,717), herein referred to as "Seo."

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim '254 in view of Examiner's Official Notice.

The above referenced claims depend from independent Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18. Accordingly, once allowability of these claims is established, all claims depending therefrom are likewise allowable.

As discussed above with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), Kim '254 does not disclose, nor does it suggest, an "opening window" that extends "in a longitudinal direction of the sealine region" as recited in Claims 1, 7, 13, and 18. None of the additional references - Kim '815 or Seo - correct this defect.

For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit independent Claims 1, 7, 13 and 18, and all claims depending therefrom are patentable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Authorization is given to charge any fees due or credit any overpayments in regard to this communication to deposit account 50-5029. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned at (408) 331-1674 is welcomed and encouraged.

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